



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 591

January Session, 2011

Substitute House Bill No. 6316

House of Representatives, April 20, 2011

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through REP. WIDLITZ of the 98th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ELECTRONIC BUSINESS PORTAL AT THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2012*) The Commercial
- 2 Recording Division of the office of the Secretary of the State shall
- 3 establish an electronic business portal as a single point of entry for
- 4 business entities for purposes of business registration pursuant to title
- 5 33 or 34 of the general statutes. Such portal shall provide explanatory
- 6 information and electronic links provided by state agencies and quasi-
- 7 public agencies, including, but not limited to, the Labor Department,
- 8 the Workers' Compensation Commission, the Departments of
- 9 Economic and Community Development, Administrative Services,
- 10 Consumer Protection, Environmental Protection and Revenue Services,
- 11 the Connecticut Development Authority, Connecticut Innovations,
- 12 Incorporated, Connecticut Licensing Info Center, The United States
- 13 Small Business Administration, the Connecticut Small Business

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2012</i>	New section

CE	Joint Favorable Subst. C/R	FIN
FIN	Joint Favorable	

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: See Below

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Secretary of the State to establish an electronic business portal including registration and licensing information and links to other state agencies and quasi-public agencies. The cost to establish this portal is approximately \$900,000 in FY 12.

It is assumed that funding for the electronic business portal project would be provided through the \$5.5 million General Obligation (GO) bond authorization¹ to the Secretary of the State in SB 1008, An Act Authorizing Bonds of the State for Capital Improvements and Other Purposes.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

¹ SB 1008 provides \$1.5 million in FY 12 and \$4 million in FY 13 for implementation and upgrade of SOTS information technology systems.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6316*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ELECTRONIC BUSINESS PORTAL AT THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the secretary of the state's Commercial Recording Division to establish an electronic portal serving as a single entry point for businesses registering with the secretary. By law, all corporations, limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, limited partnerships, and other types of businesses must register with the secretary.

The portal must provide these entities with explanatory information and links to other agencies and organizations agencies that help them (1) obtain necessary licenses and permits, (2) identify state taxes and other revenue responsibilities and benefits, and (3) find relevant state financial incentives and programs.

The bill allows the secretary to provide other state agencies and quasi-public agencies the information businesses submit when registering with her, but only for economic development, state revenue collection, and statistical purposes, as the law provides.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2012

LINKS TO OTHER AGENCIES

Besides providing registration and licensing information, the electronic business portal must provide electronic links to state agencies and quasi-public agencies. These include the Labor Department; the Workers' Compensation Commission; the departments of Economic and Community Development,

Administrative Services, Consumer Protection, Environmental Protection, and Revenue Services; the Connecticut Development Authority; Connecticut Innovations, Inc; Connecticut Licensing Information Center; and the Connecticut Small Business Development Center.

The bill also requires the portal to include links to the U.S. Small Business Administration and the nonprofit Connecticut Economic Resource Center.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Change of Reference

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/22/2011)

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 36 Nay 16 (04/07/2011)